

close friend and someone that I think about often. He was a successful realtor, a caring community leader, a beloved husband, father and grandfather, and a friend of so many.

Rusty was born on November 9, 1947 in Terrell, Texas and had been an active member of the Longview community for almost thirty years. After graduation with a Bachelor of Business degree from East Texas State University, Rusty began working in real estate. He never ceased learning about the industry—evidenced by the fact that he recently was named a Certified Commercial Investment Member by the Commercial Investment Real Estate Institute—the highest certification that a person in the commercial real estate industry may earn.

One of Rusty's most cherished activities was his association with Trinity Episcopal Church, of which he had been a supportive member for 20 years. He was recently asked to become an Assistant Verger, a position of great honor, in addition to serving in a number of other positions within the church, including serving as a member of the Vestry Board and Endowment Board and Mission Funding Coordinator For the Diocese of Texas-Northeast Convocation.

Outside of his Congregation, Rusty had a number of other community activities that made him a cherished community leader. He had been a City Councilman and charter member of Longview 2020. He served on the local boards of the American Cancer Society, the Boys and Girls Club of Gregg County, the Salvation Army and was an active member of the Downtown Rotary Club. In his spare time he also served as an assistant chaplain at the Good Shepherd Medical Center. Rusty's extraordinary community dedication and service will be missed by the City of Longview and by all those with whom he worked so selflessly.

Rusty is survived by a loving family—his wife, Andee; his daughter, Meredith, and her husband, John Lucas of Graham, Texas; his step-daughter, Cissy Wrather of Longview; his step-son, David Wrather and wife, Janet of Houston; five grandchildren, Jack and Robert Lucas, Hunter, Jack, and Abigail Wrather; brothers, Joe Norton of Tyler, Texas, Tom Norton of Terrell and sister, Claire Schilhab of Tyler; as well as several nieces and nephews.

I have always felt close to and have admitted this family, and, in fact, I have felt that I was part of this great family. Rusty's father, the late Tom Norton, took me to my first State Democratic Convention. Since that time I felt close to Tom until his death, and I join all of this great family in mourning Rusty's death, while rejoicing with the memories and the love that Rusty left to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, Rusty was a dear and special friend of mine who could always be depended upon for advice and assistance, and he leaves behind him this wonderful family and many friends in Longview whose lives were enriched by him. As we adjourn today, let us do so in honor of this beloved community leader and outstanding citizen who touched so many lives and made Longview a better place in which to live. We will remember Rusty and the legacy he leaves us.

HONORING SAN LUIS OBISPO POLICE CHIEF JAMES M. GARDINER

### HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2002*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring James M. Gardiner, the San Luis Obispo Police Chief, upon his retirement. This December, Chief Gardiner will retire from his 32-year career in law enforcement.

Chief Gardiner began his career in law enforcement, in 1970 when he joined the Newport Beach Police Department as a patrol officer. There he spent 4 years on various assignments before serving as Sergeant for 5 additional years. He was then promoted to lieutenant where he served for 3 years before becoming Captain in which position he remained for another 6 years. In August of 1987, Chief Gardiner joined the San Luis Obispo Police Department as Chief of Police.

Chief Gardiner has received numerous awards from the Central Coast community, including being named a Special Friend of the San Luis Obispo County Special Olympics on multiple occasions. The United Way named Chief Gardiner Humanitarian of the Year in 1993 and he was the recipient of the Community Service Award from the California Parks and Recreation Society in 1995. In 2000, Chief Gardiner received the National SOI Award of Special Olympics Hero. Chief Gardiner was also inducted into the Law Enforcement Torch Run Hall of Fame in 2001. Chief Gardiner and his wife, Elaine were recognized together as Citizens of the Year in 2001 by the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce.

San Luis Obispo has been more than ably served by this fine man for 15 years. I am proud to congratulate Chief Gardiner on his remarkable record of achievement during his career as a law enforcement officer.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF BURKE CENTRE

### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2002*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the 25th Anniversary of Burke Centre, Virginia on Saturday, September 14th, 2002.

Burke Centre is located in the core of the 11th congressional district of Virginia. This planned, residential community began its development in 1976 and has grown into a thriving community with over 5,800 residences in its five neighborhoods: the Commons, the Landings, the Oaks, the Ponds, and the Woods. These neighborhoods are impressive examples of a successful organized community, with each of the five represented by one trustee, and featuring a pool and community center.

The gem of Burke Centre is the Conservancy, consisting of 1,700 acres, including 350 acres of pristine open space area ideal for a wide range of active and passive recreational activities. Ponds, tennis courts, playing fields,

swimming pools, and other amenities are maintained for the enjoyment of residents.

This planned neighborhood took into consideration the community needs of its residents during its development. An efficient and effective committee system ensures residents' voices are still heard today. Burke Centre has established itself as a community committed to conservancy with its abundance of nature parks and outdoor activities. The Election Board is responsible for maintaining this mission and overseeing the annual Conservancy Board and Cluster Committee elections.

In commemoration of its 25th anniversary, Burke Centre's Fall Festival, planned and organized dually by volunteers and staff, will be the community's chance to celebrate this landmark anniversary. Antique vendors, entertainment, games and arts and crafts will pay tribute to Burke Centre's beginnings.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, with all that Burke Centre has created and offered its residents since its development 25 years ago, we have great reason to celebrate today. Accordingly, I extend my warmest congratulations to a community that has been dedicated to providing the best possible residential and community environment to its citizens.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EILEEN JENSEN-KERCHEVAL

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 19, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding woman who has achieved great accomplishments throughout her life. Eileen Jensen-Kercheval has worked diligently throughout her community to provide assistance and awareness to a variety of senior citizens issues. Eileen is an active member of numerous organizations, and traveled to Washington D.C. this month from Grand Junction, Colorado to promote awareness for senior citizens. It is a pleasure to applaud Eileen and her exceptional work in her community and its surrounding areas.

Eileen regularly appears on weekly television segments in Grand Junction, Colorado. Her segments are educational and informative to the citizens of Grand Junction, and she provides important information on many senior citizen engagements. Eileen's television career started in 1962 in Springfield, Illinois, where she entertained viewers with innovative and constructive ways in which to spend their leisure time. She was an outstanding role model for the Springfield community and retired to Grand Junction after nineteen years of accomplished airtime.

In recognition of her efforts, Eileen recently accepted the "Experience Works Prime Time Award for Colorado." She accepted the award before friends and family, and modestly recounted her successful career with her charismatic, intuitive personality.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure I bring forth the accomplishments of Eileen Jensen-Kercheval and recognize her before this body of Congress and our nation. Thank you Eileen for being an inspiration in your community; I have full confidence you will excel in any ventures you choose to pursue.